(b) the details of supply position and the steps taken by Government to meet the present requirement of LPG in these districts; and

(c) the measures proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) The average monthly.sale of LPG in the State of Assam during the year 2002-03 was approximately 11.5 Thousand Metric Tonne (TMT).

(b) and (c) Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have maintained supplies of LPG to their registered consumers in Assam. However, shortage of LPG cylinders for enrolment of new consumers in some parts of the State has been esxperienced on account of non-supply of cylinders by manufacturers due to increase in price of steel. Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) has floated a new tender to overcome the problem.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Splitting of Air India

139. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to split or halve Air India; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Deployment of ground staff by private airlines

140. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATON be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to stop private airlines from deploying their own ground staff for customer service citing security considerations;

(b) if so, whether this would adversely affect the comparatively better service provided by private airlines; and

(c) whether there have been any glaring cases of violation of security by these private airlines which necessitated this action?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI): (a) At present, under the Airports Authority of India (General Management, Entry for Ground Handling Services) Regulations, 2000, private airlines or their majority holding subsidiary company are authorized to do ground handling of their.own flights only on self-handling basis;

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

Subletting of parking contract at Ahmedabad Airport

141. SHRI RAJU PARMAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Airports Authority of India (AAI) has awarded parking contract to a private firm at Ahmedabad Airport;

(b) if so, what is the name of the contractor to whom the contract was awarded recently with the terms and conditions of the contract;

(c) whether the contractor has sublet the contract of parking to some other person who is charging exorbitantly from car owners; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The contract was awarded to M/s. Garuda Service Works, Mumbai, for a period of five years with effect from 01.08.2002 on licence fee of Rs. 4,53,786/- per month. The licence fee has been increased to Rs. 5,89,992/- per month with effect from 01.12.2002 due to upward revision of tariff. The amount of licence fee is also subject to 10% compound escalation every year.